

Introduction

Type of File and Geographic Extent

The TIGER/Line® files, 1995 are extracts of selected geographic and cartographic information from the Census TIGER® (Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing) data base. The US Bureau of the Census has released TIGER/Line® files since 1988, with each version having more updates than the previous version. The 1995 TIGER/Line® files (version 24) have been improved through increased editing of address ranges and the addition of ZIP+4® codes. The street names and address ranges in the Census TIGER® data base were compared to those in the ZIP+4® file of the US Postal Service. If a street name and address range did not have a ZIP+4® code, the code was copied from the ZIP+4® file to the Census TIGER® data base. The consistency of highway names and feature identifiers in the TIGER/Line® files also has been improved.

The 1995 TIGER/Line® files are being released by county or statistically equivalent entity based on the January 1, 1995 boundaries. They include files for all counties and statistically equivalent entities in the United States, and for the US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and the Pacific Island Territories. The 1994 TIGER/Line® files are included for American Samoa because its files have not been updated since 1994. The TIGER/Line® files, 1995 replace all previous versions of the TIGER/Line® files. They contain some address ZIP Code® information for all but 73 counties (in the 50 States and the District of Columbia) and provide more address ranges, ZIP Codes®, and +4 Add-On codes than the previous versions.

The 1995 TIGER/Line® files have the same format and structure as the 1994 TIGER/Line® files. In comparison with the 1992 TIGER/Line® files, there are field definition changes and additional record types that accommodate new information, or information that was previously supplied separately in another Census Bureau product. Record Types F and G have been deleted. These two record types appeared in the 1992 TIGER/Line® files and addressed the additions, corrections, and updates to the inventory of geographic entities made since the 1990 census.

The TIGER/Line® files, 1995 contain *data only* and do not include display or mapping software. This product is typically used in conjunction with geographic information systems or similar software.

Differences Between 1992, 1994, and 1995 TIGER/Line® Files

The format and structure of the TIGER/Line® files changed between the 1992 and the 1994 versions. There are no format or structure changes between the 1994 and 1995 versions. The differences between the 1992 version and the more recent 1994 and 1995 versions are described below.

Changes to Field Definitions

Changes were made to the field definitions in Record Type 1. The geographic area codes on Record Type 1 represent current geography rather than the 1990 census tabulation geography. The census tract and block remain as 1990 geography. In a few Type 1 records, the current state and county, combined with the 1990 census tract and block, will create nonexistent geographic areas. To avoid the nonexistent geographic areas, do not mix 1990 geographic codes with current geographic codes. The 1990 state, county, census tract, and census block codes all can be found on Record Type 3.

Census Alaska Native Regional Corporation codes were eliminated from Record Type 1 and replaced by four fields. Two fields will be used only by participants in the Census 2000 Redistricting Data Program. Two fields carry American Indian Trust Land Flags and contain two values, an "I" for individual trust land or a "T" for tribal trust land. The trust land flag will more accurately portray American Indian areas.

Record Type 3 no longer identifies 1980 geographic area codes or contains census codes for places, minor civil divisions, and sub-minor civil divisions. These fields were replaced with the 1990 geographic areas that previously appeared in Record Type 1. Current geographic areas included on Record Type 3 are the Alaska Native Regional Corporations and the American Indian/Alaska Native Areas (AIANAs).

Record Type 7 excludes key geographic locations (KGLs). These appear in the new Record Type 9.

Fields were redefined on Record Type A. The fields for the 101st and the 103rd Congressional District codes were replaced with those for the 106th and 108th; these will be blank on this release. The Census Transportation Planning Package Area code uses some of the previously reserved space at the end of the record.

Record Types Added

The 1994 and 1995 TIGER/Line[®] files include five new record types—9, C, H, S, and Z. Record Type 9 contains key geographic locations (KGLs). A KGL is a particular type of point landmark with residential or economic significance. Record Type 9 provides the linkage between a building (KGL) with a unique identity and ZIP+4[®] Code, and the building's address that uses its number and street name.

Record Type C replaces information that was supplied separately in the TIGER/Geographic Name[™] files. Record Type C provides a unique list of all geographic entities with their code, name, and status. The FIPS Year field may have three values, *90* for geographic names and codes valid for the 1990 census, *95* for geographic names and codes valid for the current year, or *blank* when the geographic names and codes are the same for 1990 and 1995. Multiple records for the same geographic entity show its change or correction over time.

Record Type H describes the history of TIGER/Line[®] IDs when complete chains are split or merged. Two fields (HIST and SOURCE) on Record Type H are not yet maintained in the Census TIGER[®] data base and are blank.

Record Type S has geographic area codes for polygons. Record Type S is similar to Record Type A (which also has geographic area codes for polygons) and is linked to Record Type P. There is a Record Type S for every polygon in Record Type P. Several fields are reserved for use by participants in Census Bureau programs. There is no assurance that the Census Bureau will populate any of these new fields as they currently are not in the Census TIGER[®] data base. The WATER field has two values, 0 for land or 1 for water.

The Congressional District codes for the 104th Congress are on Record Type S as the Current Congressional District. The Current Congressional District code must be combined with the 1990 state codes to create valid geographic areas. Combining only current geographic codes will create nonexistent geographic areas.

Record Type Z links a Postal +4 Add-On code to an address range in either Record Type 1 or Record Type 6. Match TLID fields on these records. If the RTSQ field on Record Type 6 contains a 0, the Postal +4 Add-On codes apply to the address ranges in Record Type 1. If the RTSQ field contains a number greater than 0, the Postal +4 Add-On codes apply to the address ranges in the Record Type 6 that has the identical RTSQ value.

Record Types Deleted

The 1992 TIGER/Line[®] files included Record Types F and G which are no longer used. Record Type F showed geographic codes as of January 1, 1990 that had been corrected to resolve questions local officials raised about the 1990 census data tabulations. Record Type G showed geographic codes (generally as of January 1, 1992) in those situations where geographic entities reported changes in their boundaries during the Census Bureau's annual survey of governmental units. The information previously reported in Record Type G is now implicit in the current geographic codes.

Boundary and Area Changes

The Census Bureau has shifted and reshaped some line features, including boundary lines, since the 1990 census. This realignment of features may be associated with corporate boundary corrections and changes. The shape and area of the geographic entities depicted in the 1995 TIGER/Line[®] files may differ from earlier versions of the TIGER/Line[®] files, but continue to represent the entities as they existed for the 1990 census. The inventory of census tabulation entities remains the same as it was in 1990.

Address Ranges and ZIP Codes[®]

The 1992 TIGER/Line[®] files added new address ranges only for street segments that contained no address range information in earlier versions of the TIGER/Line[®] files. Each TIGER/Line[®] version since 1992 contains

improved address ranges and ZIP Codes®. Address ranges have been edited for overlaps or other inconsistencies and ZIP Codes® have been updated in selected areas.

Coordinates

For the 48 contiguous states, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, the coordinates in the 1995 TIGER/Line® files were converted to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83). In all previous versions, the coordinate datum for the above areas was NAD27. For Hawaii and the Pacific Island Territories, regional datums were used in the 1995 TIGER/Line® files and in all previous versions of the TIGER/Line® files.

File Availability

The 1995 TIGER/Line® files are available for purchase from the US Bureau of the Census. An early release of these files was provided to participants in the Census 2000 Redistricting Data Program.

How to Use This Documentation

The structure of this document is based on data content rather than record type content. For instance, information on addresses may appear in one section, but cross-references to other related sections are included. In order to make the document easier to use as a reference, the text contains some repetition from section to section.

Chapter 1

Chapter 1 describes the basic concepts about the Census TIGER® data base and the TIGER/Line® products. It discusses the topology in the Census TIGER® data base, the terminology used to describe the geographic data, and the record types that make up the TIGER/Line® files. Chapter 1 also describes the Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) Spatial Data Transfer Standard (SDTS) nomenclature for geographic objects.

Chapter 2

Chapter 2 discusses the principle identification numbers forming the basis for record linkage discussed throughout the documentation.

Chapter 3

Chapter 3 discusses the attributes for the line, polygon, and landmark geographic objects.

Chapter 4

Chapter 4 defines the types of geographic entities and entity codes that appear in the TIGER/Line[®] files. It also identifies the fundamental relationships among the different types of geographic entities.

Chapter 5

Chapter 5 summarizes the data quality aspects of the information in the Census TIGER[®] data base using the SDTS quality modules.

Chapter 6

Chapter 6 lists the contents of the TIGER/Line[®] file record types and provides a detailed description of the data fields in each. Use Chapter 6 in conjunction with Chapters 3 and 4 to locate the positions of specific data fields in the 1995 TIGER/Line[®] files.

How to Obtain Products and Information

To order the 1995 TIGER/Line[®] files, Summary Tape Files (STFs), or the PL 94-171 Program data files, contact the Customer Services Staff, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233. The telephone number is (301) 457-4100. Information on a wide range of Census Bureau products and programs is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.census.gov>.

For information concerning the subject matter of the TIGER/Line[®] files, contact the Products and Services Staff, Geography Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233-7400. The telephone number is (301) 457-1128.